

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
18 November 2004 (18.11.2004)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2004/100596 A1

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: H04Q 7/38, H04M 3/42

(21) International Application Number: PCT/IB2003/001812

(22) International Filing Date: 9 May 2003 (09.05.2003)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(71) Applicant (*for all designated States except US*): NOKIA CORPORATION [FI/FI]; Keilalahdentie 4, FIN-02150 Espoo (FI).

(72) Inventor; and

(75) Inventor/Applicant (*for US only*): KÖHNKE, Axel [DE/DE]; Am alten Satdion 10, 48249 Dülmen (DE).

(74) Agent: KURIG, Thomas; Becker, Kurig, Straus, Bavariastrasse 7, 80336 München (DE).

(81) Designated States (*national*): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

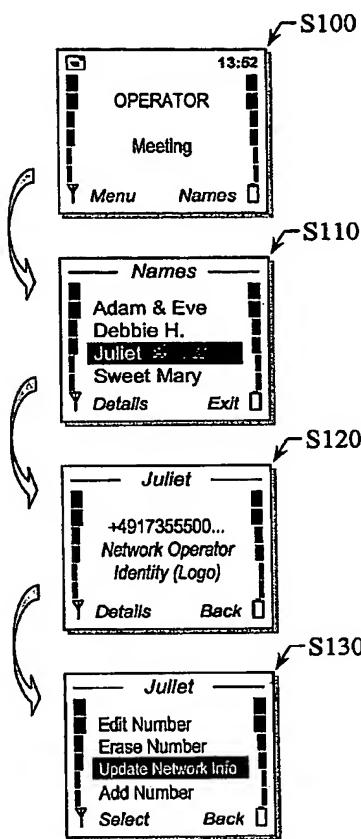
(84) Designated States (*regional*): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

— with international search report

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: METHOD AND DEVICE FOR NETWORK OPERATOR INFORMATION RETRIEVAL



(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to an information retrieval concerning information about telecommunication network operators. In particular, the present invention relates to a method for an automatic information retrieval of public land mobile network (PLMN) operators serving telephony services of subscribed mobile communication terminals. The method for network information retrieval according to one embodiment of the invention is provided for retrieval of network information about network operators serving for telephony services of communication terminal identified by a telephone number. To perform the method, a request is coded which comprises one or more telephone numbers. The request is transmitted to a network serving entity for performing the network information retrieval. The network serving entity receives the request from a communication terminal. The request is decoded to extract the one or more telephone numbers and on the basis of the one or more telephone numbers network information is retrieved. A response is coded which includes the retrieved network information and the coded request is transmitted to the communication terminal from which the request has been originally transmitted. The communication terminal receives the corresponding response from the network serving entity in consequence on the request. The response comprises network information relating to the one or more telephone numbers. The response is decoded to extract the network information and the network information is stored accordingly in conjunction with the one or more telephone numbers.

WO 2004/100596 A1

WO 2004/100596 A1



For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.